

experience in the documents of the Peasants' Rising, who hunted out and transcribed for me at the Record Office that considerable mass of unprinted matter on which much of the present work is based. It is my hope that in the course of the next year we shall publish a small volume of these materials. It would contain trials of the rebels of 1381 passed over by M. Reville, the trial of John of Northampton, documents relating to the early Lollards, and various matters that will, I believe, be of permanent value to historians; the references to these original documents in the Public Record Office will be found in the footnotes and appendices to the present volume. Finally, I must say a word as to the period covered by the book, for the 'Age of Wycliffe' is a vague term. I have restricted the political history to the years 1376 to 1385, because they form a separate epoch in secular affairs. On the other hand, I have found it impossible to make any break in the history of the Lollards until Richard's death (end of Chapter VIII.). I have besides added an additional Chapter (Chapter IX.), briefly relating their fortunes down to the year 1520. Without this continuation the Age of Wycliffe would lose half its meaning, and remarks occurring in various parts of the book would remain unjustified.

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